



February 2021



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we have reached February half term, I wanted to write to you to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you for all of your efforts over the past 6 weeks.

On the evening of January 04th when schools were told to 'close' no one could have envisaged the steep learning curve that everyone would face.

In these last few months you have supported your children in their learning be it remotely by adapting to using Teams or by engaging with the learning in school. It has been tough trying to juggle younger children, work commitments etc. We do not underestimate the difficulties of this. Thank you.

The remote learning has been put to the test only this morning when at the last minute the Class 2 bubble had to shut. Thank you for your patience and understanding with this closure, as you appreciate rapid decisions have to be made within often extremely short time frames.

You might get to find out the name of the individual who has tested positive and we wish them well but please be sensitive about discussing or mentioning names on any group chats/ posts.

The staff have tried extremely hard to teach both the children at home and those in school. Below, you can see the results of the questionnaire sent out to gauge our Remote Learning provision. As ever, the school is refining and adapting to the offer it provides. If you have any queries regarding this offer please do not hesitate to contact the staff during school hours and they will assist you in uploading work or providing more feedback should you require it.

It has been suggested that staff turn off their e-mail notifications at 6pm tonight until they return on the 22nd February. 4 members of staff are currently isolating and they are all in need of some rest and time with their families so that they can return to school fit and healthy for the weeks ahead.

Moving towards the next half term we are looking forward to World Maths Day as well as World Book Day (details to follow). Sadly, as this stage I do not have a confirmed date for a full return to school but will keep you informed as soon as I have details.

We look forward to welcoming you all back in school as soon as we're able.

My very best wishes
Zoe Longstaff.



We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs Julia Pearson who has taken a Teaching Assistant role within in the school. She has started working in Class 2 and has already shown to be a great asset to the class and the school.



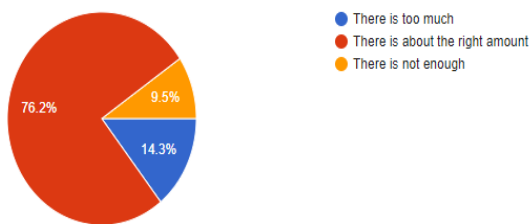
Mrs Evans left her teaching assistant role in class 2 at the end of January for personal reasons. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work during her time at Swinderby.

Remote Learning Survey Results

Thank you to those parents/guardians that completed our questionnaire on remote learning. There were some super comments and feedback:

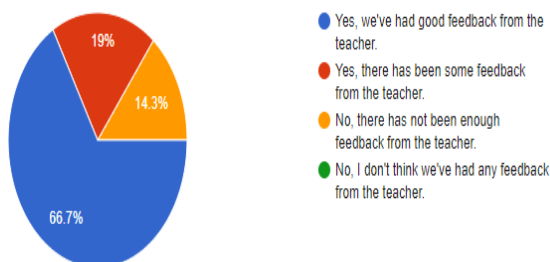
How have you found the quality of work set for your child to complete each day?

21 responses



Do you feel your child has had enough feedback about the work that they have handed in?

21 responses



My child prefers my home teaching style to my husband's! She likes the extra time we get together during the week but misses the company of other children. The distance learning this lockdown is much better than last March - more structure and the online lessons make us feel still part of the class.

In comparison to first lockdown, there is more structure in the school day

We really appreciate all the support we received and we can not complain in terms of how school handled remote learning. You are all fantastic, responsive and caring! Go over and beyond- always. Thank you!! However this situation is not healthy for anybody involved in the process while working full time. I am not going to be the same person after this experience and just hoping we will still come out of this on the other side with our jobs.

It has been a positive experience to be more involved with my child's subject areas and a joy to see the aspects they enjoy. A few areas are more tricky and perhaps in relation to these times my child has been less motivated in comparison to what their attitude would have been in school ('I know how to do this / it



Current School Opening Times

Class 1 (YR & Y1) – 08:50 to 3:25pm.

Class 2 (Y2 & Y3) – 08:50 to 3:25pm.

Class 3 (Y4, 5 & 6) – 08:40 to 3:20pm

Please ensure you are dropping off and collecting at the correct school gate:

YR, 1, 4 5 & 6 – Black Main Gate

Y2 and 3 – Playgroup Gate

Children who are late for school will be marked as such, which could be flagged up as a concern during our attendance monitoring. If your child is late on a regular basis, they then miss out on a vital routine which helps them settle into the school day and be ready to start learning. If they are late this disturbs the smooth start of the day for all.

With the new staggered start and end times, it is essential that everyone is on time to keep the flow of the school.



Reporting Absence

If your child is absent from school you can either telephone the school on 01522 868287 or send an email to enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk before 9.15am to inform us that your child is ill.

Absences must be reported each day your child is absent.

If your child is absent due to sickness or diarrhoea, they will need to be clear of all the symptoms for 48 hours before returning to school.

Attendance Policy

We have updated our Attendance Policy – please see the school website for more details.



Attendance Every student. Every day.

It is vital that your children get the best possible education going forward so please send your children to school. Attendance is now compulsory and holidays in term time will NOT be authorised. Our normal attendance policy will now apply.

As a school we need to meet the target of 95%, which is the national average. We can only do this if parents support us fully and if we all understand the importance of NOT taking term time holidays or absences from school. Attendance will be monitored each half term.

Class Attendance – Term 1

Explorers – 95.6%
Olympians – 97.1%
Oak – 99.1%

Truth, Compassion, Respect, Forgiveness

COVID Actions

Thorough handwashing and cleaning is taking place regularly and the school is doing its best to minimise risk to children and adults. Please can I remind you of the procedure if your child is unwell:

If your child is unwell at school we will contact you immediately. If they display any of the following symptoms:

- a raised temperature
- a persistent cough
- loss of taste or smell

I will ask you to take your child for a COVID test. They will NOT be allowed back in school unless; the test is negative and they feel well enough or, following a positive result they have isolated for 10 days and they feel well enough.

If the school has a positive case then I will contact Public Health Lincolnshire who will advise me on the next steps to take, regarding whether any other staff member or children need to isolate.

If your child has any of the above symptoms, please do NOT send your child to school. As we move further into autumn and winter this will be increasingly difficult to know whether to send your child in as they will suffer from coughs and colds. In general, if they don't have a temperature and not a heavy cold they should come to school.

It will not be normal practice to inform you if an adult or child is sent for a test unless a positive result is received.

Please can we also stress that if a family member goes for a test ALL of the family are to self-isolate.

Coronavirus

If your child displays symptoms of or goes for a COVID test over half term please can you inform school on enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk as soon as possible. This is especially important if this occurs up to and including February 14th as there will have been potential contact with their class bubble 48 hours prior to this. In which case, I would need to make parents of children in that class bubble aware of a possible exposure to the virus.

Uniform

The school are keen to ensure that our children look smart and wear their uniform with pride. PE kits are part of the school uniform

NO patterned or logoed (except school logo) T-shirts. This includes PE kits



PE Kit

Whole school to come in PE kit ALL DAY on a Wednesday. NO school uniform to be brought. On other days when PE is on your class teacher will ask you to bring in plimsolls or trainers.

Please could we stress that PE kit is still part of the school UNIFORM and therefore should only consist of Blue/White T-shirt (no logos, except school logo), Dark Shorts/Jogging bottoms in colder months and trainers. Anything alternate to these will not be acceptable.

Please ensure all school uniform and PE kit is named.

If you're looking for labels, The **My Nametags** labels are extremely hard wearing and save a great deal of effort and potential lost property. They can be used on school uniforms, brownies/guides clothes, and football kits, in fact almost anything.

For every order of personalised labels, My Nametags will contribute to the school. Order online at www.MyNametags.com and use our unique School ID number (64189), you'll be raising much needed money for the school.

Cold Weather

With the cold weather, please ensure your child comes to school with a coat (and hat and gloves in the winter months). We do still like to get outside wherever possible and would appreciate if the children were prepared. Wellies are ideal in snowy weather.

Following on from the above, should the weather take a turn for the worse, please tune into **Lincs FM (102.2)** from 5am for their emergency information bulletins. Every half an hour they will list all the local school closures as well as any other cancelled services or events. Visit www.lincsfm.co.uk and click on School Closures.



Times Table Rock Stars

Please continue to support your children with the TT Rock Stars App. Children will be able to practice at school but log in details will also be supplied so they can practice at home too. Times tables are paramount to children's learning and the more practice they get, the more confident they will be in answering all maths questions.



Music

Now that music is starting to become established again in school, we'd like to remind parents that we are offering private lessons both virtually or in person on guitar, singing, keyboard, ukulele or violin. Please get in touch for further details.



Breakfast and After School Club

Please ensure all bookings are made at least a week in advance, where possible – ideally we'd like these termly. As the Cabin Club is becoming more popular, we cannot guarantee there will be places available on the day. It is essential that booking forms are completed for **EVERY** session. Having these booking forms allows Lisa to plan specific activities and purchase the correct amount of food for each session.

If anyone would like to make a booking please see Lisa or the school office. Bookings & payments can now also be made via our Parent Mail App. Everything for Cabin Club is set up but please bear with us as we learn the system ourselves as well.

Please note that as of 01.11.2020 our hourly rate has increased to £4 per child. The afterschool club is only running until 4:30pm for the time being.



Communication with Staff

Following discussions at a Governor meeting last November, it has been decided that any emails sent to staff outside of the hours 8am-4:30pm will be looked at and responded to the next working day – unless the recipient chooses otherwise. This is entirely at their own discretion.

Part-time workers will respond between these hours on their working days unless they choose to work outside of those hours.

Emails sent at weekends will not be read/replied to unless the recipient chooses to do so.



Parking

Please could all parents ensure that they're mindful of not parking in the school bus bay when dropping off in the morning or collecting in the afternoon. For the safety of all the children getting on and off the bus it is important this area is kept clear.

Also, could we remind parents to continue being courteous to our neighbours and ensure we're not blocking any access or driveways. Please, show you care, park elsewhere; we've got the ideal facility (**Park & Stride**) just five-minute walk away at the Village Hall.

There is currently an on-going consultation with regards to restricted parking outside of school with Lincolnshire County Council and the Parish Council. There is a notice on the post outside of school, giving further information.



School Lunches

We are now offering hot meals to all children in school. Whilst we are in the current lock down situation, meals are ordered on a weekly basis. The site will be open again on **Tues 16th Feb – Thurs 18th Feb** to order meals for w/c 22.02.2021



Free School Meal Vouchers

For those children in receipt of Free School meals, vouchers have been ordered to cover half term week. These will come via email from Wonde. The EdenRed vouchers will re-commence w/c 22.02.2021 until schools are fully re-open.



Free School Meals

With effect from September 2018, a new system to process Free School Meals was introduced, whereby parents and guardians will need to apply online. We would encourage **ALL** parents & guardians to apply. Further information can be found on the following website: <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals/>

Lunchboxes

According to NHS choices a balanced lunchbox should contain:

- Starchy foods like bread, rice, potatoes or pasta
- Protein foods like meat, fish, eggs or beans
- A dairy item, like cheese or yogurt
- Vegetables or salad and a portion of fruit

As a school we encourage the above suggestions but also allow a small chocolate bar (i.e. a Penguin/Kit Kat) or a small piece of cake.

However, there are some items that are **NOT** allowed in school, these include:

- Bags of sweets (of any size)
- Large chocolate bars (Mars, Wispas etc.)
- Nuts or nut based products
- Eggs



Letters Home

We send all letters that don't need printing out via email - Txtround. If you are unable to view these letters via your email you can view these on the school website if you prefer <http://www.swinderbyallsaints.co.uk/letters-home/>

Letters that require you to send in a reply slip are sent home as a hard copy.

Permission Slips

We appreciate the children sometimes have a lot of letters to bring home, but we try to keep this to a minimum by emailing copies home where possible and putting notifications on our Facebook page, however for those letters that do have to go home and require a permission slip returning, could we ask that children are provided with a plastic folder to keep them safe and contained on the journey from class room to home and vice versa. That way it tries to limit any information that could potentially be lost in transit.



Lincoln Lottery

We have launched our community lottery page. To start supporting us please visit: www.LincolnLottery.co.uk and search for 'Swinderby'.

Help us to raise funds for the school.

Communication

All emails regarding illness/appointments/general enquiries are to be sent to enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk

Specific emails can be sent to class teachers. However, please note, class teachers are unable to check emails during the day. They will reply as soon as they can but it may not be until the next day.

Term Dates

Fri 12 Pancake Races – 2:30pm
Fri 12 Last Day of Term
Mon 22 First Day of Term

March

Sat 06 Spring Clean of School Grounds
 Sat 13 Reserve Date for Spring Clean of School Grounds
 Wed 17 Parents Evening – 4 to 6:30pm
 Thurs 18 Parents Evening – 4 to 6:30pm
 Wed 31 Easter Service
Wed 31 Last Day of Term

April

Thurs 01 INSET DAY
Mon 19 First Day of Term
 Tues 20 Open Morning 09:45 to 11:30am

May

Fri 14 PGL Visit – Y5/Y6
 Sun 16 Return from PGL
 Tues 25 Y5/6 Puberty Workshop, Positive Health
Fri 28 Last Day of Term

June

Mon 07 First Day of Term

July

Fri 02 Whole School Sports Day
 Wed 07 Y4, 5 & 6 Play
 Fri 09 Reserve Sports Day
 Fri 09 Reports Issued
 Tues 13 Transition afternoon
 Wed 21 Leaver's Assembly
 Wed 21 Last Day of Term

Some of these events are subject to change and some may be done virtually, we will keep you informed.

A copy of the term dates can be found on our school website.

And finally

For those of you who have 'liked' the School's Facebook page. **Please can you make sure you like the posts. As the School is a business page if you don't like the post or interact with the page the updates/posts will stop coming up on your Newsfeed.** The school facebook page is used as an additional way of getting information out to our parents.

www.facebook.com/SwinderbyAllSaintsPrimarySchool



We like to keep in regular contact with you and all our latest news can be found on: Facebook, School website and via Txtround.